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McCarthy Won't Give Up in CIA Battle

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WASHINGTON — Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy (D-Minn.) refused to concede defeat Friday in the quest to give the Senate Foreign Relations Committee a role in supervision of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Although the Senate voted 61 to 28 Thursday to deny the committee such a role, McCarthy told a press conference he still hopes some "arrangement" can be worked out.

"The fight is not over," McCarthy said.

However, this view was not shared by Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.), who led the fight against a resolution by McCarthy that would have let the Foreign Relations Committee share Senate overseeing of CIA operations.

Russell, chairman of an informal seven-man subcommittee that monitors CIA activities, sidetracked the resolution by persuading the Senate to refer it to the Armed Services

Committee, also headed by Russell.

Despite broad hints by Russell on Thursday that the resolution will languish in armed services forever, McCarthy said Friday he thinks the committee might take some action on it.

"I don't think it's necessarily buried," McCarthy said.

Russell, when questioned about that, said he has no plans to take action on the resolution.

McCarthy said he hopes "some kind of informal arrangement" can be negotiated to give foreign relations a share of supervision over the CIA.

As a last resort, he said he might offer "a sense of the Senate" resolution that the CIA should report more fully than it does presently to the Foreign Relations Committee or one of its subcommittees.